

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced a \$6.2 million annual grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Friday for CentroMed, also known as El Centro del Barrio, in San Antonio. The grant is scheduled to be renewed each year through 2015, bringing the total grant amount to \$31 million over the next five years, allowing for continued provision of services for CentroMed's target population.

“Organizations like CentroMed serve such an important role in reaching out to members of the community in the neighborhoods where they live,” said Congressman Rodriguez. “I am proud to support CentroMed with funding that will allow for staff to continue serving some of our neediest citizens.”

The funding announced Friday will go toward continued operation of CentroMed's 19-site network of clinics that offer medical, dental, behavioral health, nutrition, parenting education, health education and ancillary and support services.

“I want to thank Congressman Rodriguez for his support in getting these federal funds,” said Dr. Ernesto Gomez, President and CEO of CentroMed. “We are delighted to be able to continue to get federal funding to address the healthcare needs of our community. These funds and the services we provide the community are even more important during these difficult economic times. By providing healthcare to the uninsured in our community, we can help them better manage their lives.”

CentroMed was founded in 1973 as a non-profit, community-based, bilingual-bicultural community health center whose mission is to improve the health status of the community. In 2008, CentroMed provided services to more than 54,000 individuals, including 67 percent uninsured, 13 percent homeless, 90 percent Hispanic and or African-American.

For more information, visit www.centromedsa.com

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